



BILL FINCH
Mayor

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT
999 BROAD STREET
BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT 06604
TELEPHONE (203) 576-7201
FAX (203) 576-3913

Testimony of Mayor Bill Finch
City of Bridgeport
In Support of Senate Bill 1075
Energy and Technology Committee
Public Hearing

March 3, 2009

Dear Members of the Energy and Technology Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to address you regarding an important piece of legislation under your consideration. Specifically, I would like to extend my support of section two of Senate Bill 1075, "An Act Concerning Competitive Electric Suppliers".

This bill addresses the development of municipal aggregation systems in Connecticut. These programs would allow energy companies to target a larger group of consumers and potential customers. This, in turn, would allow for energy companies to offer lower rates to consumers as they would not have to spend money on advertising for smaller and individual contracts.

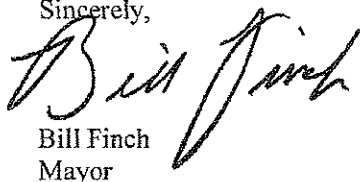
Ideally, this program would be administered on an opt-out basis, as bleak participation in opt-in programs in states such as California have not produced the significant economic savings that opt-out programs have in states such as Ohio and Massachusetts. An opt-out program, furthermore, presents consumers a choice and a chance to weigh the economic benefits of subscribing to such a program.

Municipal aggregation systems have met with success in numerous states. For example, Massachusetts's Cape Light Compact has offered numerous benefits to customers, most importantly, reduced prices through aggregation, and the ability to choose renewable energy products and participate in various energy efficiency programs under the Compact. This example illustrated the viability and advantages of the municipal aggregation systems that I would like to see Connecticut develop and implement.

I hope that we are able to replicate similar success of this program here in Connecticut and give our residents the opportunity to enjoy the same benefits that Massachusetts and other states have extended to their citizenry.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,


Bill Finch
Mayor